

To: Agricultural Commission, Board of Assessors, Building Department, Conservation Commission, Department of Public Works, Disability Commission, Economic Development Commission, Fire Department, Grafton Land Trust, Board of Health, Historical Commission, Planning Board, Police Department, Recreation Commission, School Committee, Select Board, Sewer Commissioners

From: Open Space & Recreation Committee

Subject: ACTION REQUESTED: Review Responsibilities for Action Items in Open Space & Recreation Plan

Date: December 1, 2021

The recently-approved 2020 revision of the Grafton Open Space & Recreation Plan includes a seven-year action plan consisting of 65 action items, with responsibility for those action items shared by various combinations of 19 parties (boards, commissions, committees, departments, organizations).

The Open Space & Recreation Committee was formed by the Select Board to oversee the implementation of that action plan. To facilitate that implementation, the Committee proposes to assign a lead responsible party for each action item, with the other responsible parties in a supporting role.

Included in this memo is a set of tables, one for each responsible party, listing the action items for which that party is proposed to take a lead role, followed by the items for which that party is proposed to take a supporting role.

The Committee requests that each of you:

- review the action items assigned to your organization and the roles proposed for each action item
- return to the Committee your comments and suggestions

The Committee will revise the assignments as necessary, based on feedback from the parties identified as responsible for implementation of the action plan.

Send your comments, suggestions, and feedback to osrcommittee@grafton-ma.gov.

This document lists, for each responsible party, the action items for which that party is lead or supporting.

- The Partners column lists the other supporting parties, and where the responsible party is a supporting party, the lead party is denoted by **.
- The items for which the responsible party is lead are listed first, followed by those for which it is supporting. In both groups, the items are listed in priority order.
- This represents the Open Space and Recreation Committee's initial proposal for assignment of lead responsible parties, and is subject to revision after review by all parties involved.

Ag Commission						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	2.3-B	Develop programs to support the vital role Grafton's farmers play in the local economy.	Protect Grafton's farms	Planning, Economic Development, Select Board	M	Medium
Lead	2.3-A	Work closely with the agricultural commission to explore and develop mechanisms for the protection and maintenance of working farms in Grafton.	Protect Grafton's farms	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Assessors, Conservation	L	Long
Lead	5.3-B	Work with Grafton's working farmers and agricultural land owners to encourage the continued preservation of the Town's remaining agricultural resources.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Planning, Economic Development, Conservation	L	Long
Supporting	5.3-A	Evaluate Transfer of Development Rights for possible adoption.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Planning**, Conservation	L	Long

Assessors						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	5.1-C	Annually Evaluate existing tax title properties and where appropriate, seek to place under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Conservation, Select Board, Planning, New Committee**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	5.4-A	Work to establish a committee to review Town-owned land for updated uses related to open space and recreation needs. Committee would specifically focus on lands emerging out of Chapter Lands programs.	Establish an Open Space and Recreation Site Committee to review Town-owned land and prioritize parcels that could be used for conservation and recreation purposes	Select Board, Planning, Recreation, Conservation, New Committee**	M	Short
Supporting	2.1-B	Provide information to landowners regarding available mechanisms to permanently protect open space parcels.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Select Board, Planning, Conservation**	M	Medium
Supporting	2.3-A	Work closely with the agricultural commission to explore and develop mechanisms for the protection and maintenance of working farms in Grafton.	Protect Grafton's farms	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Conservation, Ag Commission**	L	Long

Building						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	1.3-A	Concentrate educational efforts to address nonconforming uses within well recharge areas.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	Planning, Conservation**	M	Ongoing

Conservation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	1.2-A	Prioritize land acquisitions to protect drinking water supply and surface water resources.	Manage, protect and improve public access to water resources vital for the sustainability of the community	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board	H	Ongoing
Lead	2.1-C	Proactively monitor and audit existing conservation lands to prevent encroachment and ensure conservation restrictions are having their intended effect.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Grafton Land Trust	H	Ongoing
Lead	2.2-A	Prioritize land acquisitions to protect ecologically sensitive lands and establish Open Space Corridors.	Protect ecologically sensitive lands	Grafton Land Trust	H	Ongoing
Lead	6.4-B	Secure land along Silver Lake shoreline, Quinsigamond River, Blackstone River and Fisherville Mill Pond toward the development of a comprehensive Green Belt.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Recreation, Planning	H	Ongoing
Lead	1.5-A	Ensure there is a water quality plan in place for all of town water bodies that is actively maintained and implemented.	Take measures to improve the quality of Grafton's surface waters	Select Board	H	Short
Lead	4.1-A	Create Trails Subcommittee via Conservation Commission.	Improve the maintenance of Grafton,Â's active and passive recreation areas and facilities		H	Short
Lead	4.2-A	Improve signage and other wayfinding, identifying the location/access points for all conservation lands that are open to the public.	Provide citizens and visitors with information regarding Grafton,Â's recreation/conservation/ cultural/ historic resources	Trails Committee	H	Short
Lead	1.3-A	Concentrate educational efforts to address nonconforming uses within well recharge areas.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	Building, Planning	M	Ongoing
Lead	1.3-B	Conduct outreach efforts to homeowners and business owners regarding nonpoint source pollution reduction practices.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	DPW	M	Ongoing

Conservation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	1.4-A	Review and update the regulations of the Grafton Wetland Protection Bylaw at regular intervals.	Protect and restore significant wetland areas		M	Ongoing
Lead	6.4-D	Pursue policies to encourage private developers grant easements as part of any new developments along Green Belt route.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Select Board, Planning	M	Ongoing
Lead	2.1-B	Provide information to landowners regarding available mechanisms to permanently protect open space parcels.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Select Board, Planning, Assessors	M	Medium
Lead	2.1-D	Develop enforcement protocol for encroachment.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Police, Select Board	M	Medium
Lead	4.3-A	Increase available parking space and improve condition of parking at conservation properties.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	DPW, Select Board	M	Medium
Lead	6.4-C	Pursue development of trails along parcels along lands already owned by the Town, Land Trust or other public agency.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Trails Committee, Grafton Land Trust	M	Medium
Lead	2.2-B	Secure conservation easements for the town owned open space properties where protection is appropriate.	Protect ecologically sensitive lands		M	Long
Lead	1.1-A	Continue to support efforts to work with the Blackstone River Watershed Council and other organizations by establishing points of contact, developing working relationships, participating in regional conferences and other activities.	Continue to support regional efforts to improve and maintain the quality of the Blackstone River and its watershed in order to maximize its use	Planning, Select Board	L	Ongoing

Conservation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	6.2-A	Restore and maintain the waterway identification signs at road crossings.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	DPW	L	Ongoing
Lead	6.4-A	Develop Grafton Trail Loop, Green Belt Master Plan laying out possible easement routes, identifying publicly and privately-owned parcels and developing a strategy for securing easements, funding sources and other logistics	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Recreation, Select Board, Planning	L	Long
Supporting	5.1-A	Develop priority list of parcels for immediate and future acquisition of land to expand and connect existing resources, based on risk, proximity to existing resources and other factors.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Planning, New Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.2-D	Prioritize land acquisitions to purchase parcels that increase connectivity.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Grafton Land Trust, Planning, Select Board, Trails Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	1.2-C	Reconcile town storm water regulations with the Grafton Subdivision Rules and Regulations to ensure consistency and enhance protection of land and water resources.	Manage, protect and improve public access to water resources vital for the sustainability of the community	Planning**	H	Short
Supporting	4.2-B	Prepare paper and digital resources (including social media) detailing the town's recreation facilities, public open spaces, trail systems, and other resources to publicize Grafton's special places to new residents and visitors.	Provide citizens and visitors with information regarding Grafton,Âs recreation/conservation/ cultural/ historic resources	Recreation**, Select Board	H	Short

Conservation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	4.2-C	Develop a plan to ensure coordination between land trust and other agencies/organizations to make data on trails publicly available on the same platforms and in the same formats.	Provide citizens and visitors with information regarding Grafton,Âs recreation/conservation/ cultural/ historic resources	Recreation**	H	Short
Supporting	5.3-C	Amend flexible development rules in Grafton Subdivision Rules and Regulations to require developers to clearly and permanently mark open spaces in subdivisions through the installation of signage or other permanent method.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Planning**	H	Short
Supporting	2.4-A	Strengthen low impact development {LID} requirement language in town bylaws.	Protect land resources vital for the community	Planning**	H	Medium
Supporting	1.3-C	Encourage monitoring and repair of individual septic systems by property owners through education actions.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	Health**	M	Ongoing*
Supporting	5.1-C	Annually Evaluate existing tax title properties and where appropriate, seek to place under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Assessors, Select Board, Planning, New Committee**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	5.2-B	Develop and promote programs for all age groups and user groups within the population.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Recreation**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	4.6-B	Develop plan to make all publicly available data on hunting, trapping and fishing opportunities on Grafton's conservation lands available through the Town's website.	Improve fishing, hunting, and trapping opportunities	Recreation**	M	Short
Supporting	5.4-A	Work to establish a committee to review Town-owned land for updated uses related to open space and recreation needs. Committee would specifically focus on lands emerging out of Chapter Lands programs.	Establish an Open Space and Recreation Site Committee to review Town-owned land and prioritize parcels that could be used for conservation and recreation purposes	Assessors, Select Board, Planning, Recreation, New Committee**	M	Short

Conservation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	2.4-B	Implement recommendations of the BRVHC's Natural Resources Inventory and Assessment. BRVHC's Natural Resources Inventory and Assessment recommendations can be found at mmend.1:1df. mmend.1:1df.	Protect land resources vital for the community	Planning**	M	Medium
Supporting	4.1-C	Develop a multi-year funding plan to finance better management of conservation and recreation lands.	Improve the maintenance of Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas and facilities	Recreation**, Select Board	M	Medium
Supporting	4.3-B	Inventory and map all open space trails identifying their current condition, maintenance needed.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Trails Committee**, Grafton Land Trust	M	Medium
Supporting	4.3-C	Increase recreation opportunities for a variety of user groups and special populations including teenagers and handicapped persons.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Recreation**	M	Medium
Supporting	4.3-D	Develop plan to ensure all coordinated trails data is made available to emergency services personnel.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Grafton Land Trust, Fire, Police, Select Board, Trails Committee**	M	Medium
Supporting	5.2-A	Identify gaps in trail network that might be filled with new land acquisitions.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Trails Committee**, Grafton Land Trust	M	Medium
Supporting	3.1-B	Revise and/or update Open Space and Recreation Plan prior to expiration.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Select Board, Planning, Recreation**	M	Long (Expires 2028)
Supporting	4.5-A	Develop management plans and strategic goals for Grafton's conservation lands and active recreational facilities.	Plan for year-round, active and passive recreational use of public space	Recreation**	M	Long
Supporting	2.4-C	Maintain partnerships with key open space protection allies such as OCR, Trust for Public Lands, the Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc., Grafton Land Trust and Sudbury Valley Trustees.	Protect land resources vital for the community	Select Board, Planning**	L	Ongoing

Conservation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	4.6-A	Coordinate with DCR with stocking at Cronin and Miscoe Brooks.	Improve fishing, hunting, and trapping opportunities	Select Board, Recreation**	L	Ongoing
Supporting	3.1-D	Coordinate with the Historic Commission and other relevant organizations to help build awareness of the historical significance of Grafton's historical and cultural places.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton's historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Select Board, Planning, Historical Commission**	L	Short
Supporting	2.3-A	Work closely with the agricultural commission to explore and develop mechanisms for the protection and maintenance of working farms in Grafton.	Protect Grafton's farms	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Assessors, Ag Commission**	L	Long
Supporting	4.4-A	Continue to support the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor, Inc. and DCR's goals for the Blackstone River and Canal by facilitating the development of park lands and recreational opportunities in their vicinity.	Support Blackstone Bikeway	Recreation**, Planning	L	Long
Supporting	5.1-B	Develop an outreach program when planning the town-wide trails to secure cooperation of affected landowners.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Trails Committee**	L	Long
Supporting	5.2-D	Create a Grafton Trail Loop and Layout preferred location and begin securing trail easements with affected property owners.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Trails Committee**, Recreation	L	Long
Supporting	5.3-A	Evaluate Transfer of Development Rights for possible adoption.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Planning**, Ag Commission	L	Long
Supporting	5.3-B	Work with Grafton's working farmers and agricultural land owners to encourage the continued preservation of the Town's remaining agricultural resources.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Ag Commission**, Planning, Economic Development	L	Long

Conservation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	6.1-A	Explore options for use of Grafton-Upton Railroad ROW from Snow Road intersection in the North to the Upton border in the South for a multi-use trail. The section South of the Town Common will be a key component of a walking path from the Common to Silver Lake. Explore other options for town-wide trails as well.	Improve and expand the system of Town-wide trails to provide a variety of recreational opportunities, such as hiking, jogging, skiing, biking, and horseback riding	Select Board, Recreation**	L	Long
Supporting	6.3-B	Work with relevant town and regional organizations to develop a map of existing trails and proposed routes and destinations.	Work with neighboring communities to create inter-municipal connections	Planning, Trails Committee**	L	Long
Supporting	6.3-C	Work with neighboring communities to develop trail, bikeway and other connections between communities.	Work with neighboring communities to create inter-municipal connections	Planning**	L	Long

DPW						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	6.2-B	Develop and maintain up-to-date inventory of sidewalks, including current condition, to promote timely repair and improvement of sidewalk network.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Select Board	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.2-C	Develop Road Safety education program	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Police**, Recreation, Planning, Fire, School Department	H	Ongoing
Supporting	1.3-B	Conduct outreach efforts to homeowners and business owners regarding nonpoint source pollution reduction practices.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	Conservation**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	1.3-D	Inspect sewer system and identify contingency plans for spills and leaks.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	Sewer**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	4.3-A	Increase available parking space and improve condition of parking at conservation properties.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Conservation**, Select Board	M	Medium
Supporting	6.2-A	Restore and maintain the waterway identification signs at road crossings.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Conservation**	L	Ongoing

Disability Commission						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	5.2-C	Develop a map or other tool that identifies and prioritizes areas underserved by recreation facilities and other gaps.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Recreation**	M	Medium

Economic Development						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	6.2-E	Explore opportunities for development of a Town Trolley or other circulator to connect popular cultural and open space destinations.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton's active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Historical Commission, Recreation, Select Board	L	Long
Supporting	2.3-B	Develop programs to support the vital role Grafton's farmers play in the local economy.	Protect Grafton's farms	Planning, Select Board, Ag Commission**	M	Medium
Supporting	5.3-B	Work with Grafton's working farmers and agricultural land owners to encourage the continued preservation of the Town's remaining agricultural resources.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Ag Commission**, Planning, Conservation	L	Long

Fire						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	6.2-C	Develop Road Safety education program	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton's active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Police**, Recreation, DPW, Planning, School Department	H	Ongoing
Supporting	4.3-D	Develop plan to ensure all coordinated trails data is made available to emergency services personnel.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Grafton Land Trust, Police, Select Board, Conservation, Trails Committee**	M	Medium

Grafton Land Trust						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	1.2-A	Prioritize land acquisitions to protect drinking water supply and surface water resources.	Manage, protect and improve public access to water resources vital for the sustainability of the community	Select Board, Conservation**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	2.1-C	Proactively monitor and audit existing conservation lands to prevent encroachment and ensure conservation restrictions are having their intended effect.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Conservation**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	2.2-A	Prioritize land acquisitions to protect ecologically sensitive lands and establish Open Space Corridors.	Protect ecologically sensitive lands	Conservation**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	5.1-A	Develop priority list of parcels for immediate and future acquisition of land to expand and connect existing resources, based on risk, proximity to existing resources and other factors.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Select Board, Planning, Conservation, New Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.2-D	Prioritize land acquisitions to purchase parcels that increase connectivity.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton, active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Planning, Select Board, Conservation, Trails Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.4-B	Secure land along Silver Lake shoreline, Quinsigamond River, Blackstone River and Fisherville Mill Pond toward the development of a comprehensive Green Belt.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Select Board, Recreation, Planning, Conservation**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	4.3-B	Inventory and map all open space trails identifying their current condition, maintenance needed.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Trails Committee**, Conservation	M	Medium
Supporting	4.3-D	Develop plan to ensure all coordinated trails data is made available to emergency services personnel.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Fire, Police, Select Board, Conservation, Trails Committee**	M	Medium

Grafton Land Trust						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	5.2-A	Identify gaps in trail network that might be filled with new land acquisitions.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Trails Committee**, Conservation	M	Medium
Supporting	6.4-C	Pursue development of trails along parcels along lands already owned by the Town, Land Trust or other public agency.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Trails Committee, Conservation**	M	Medium
Supporting	2.3-A	Work closely with the agricultural commission to explore and develop mechanisms for the protection and maintenance of working farms in Grafton.	Protect Grafton's farms	Select Board, Assessors, Conservation, Ag Commission**	L	Long

Health						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	1.3-C	Encourage monitoring and repair of individual septic systems by property owners through education actions.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	Conservation	M	Ongoing*

Historical Commission						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	3.1-D	Coordinate with the Historic Commission and other relevant organizations to help build awareness of the historical significance of Grafton's historical and cultural places.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Select Board, Conservation, Planning	L	Short
Lead	3.1-C	Update and maintain Town inventory of scenic lands and special places.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Planning	L	Medium
Supporting	3.3-A	Explore Zoning Bylaw Amendments and other land use policies and programs that encourage the preservation of the character of Grafton's historic districts.	Encourage the continuation of Grafton's historic patterns of development where they are discernible	Planning**	M	Medium
Supporting	6.2-E	Explore opportunities for development of a Town Trolley or other circulator to connect popular cultural and open space destinations.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Economic Development**, Recreation, Select Board	L	Long

New Committee – Name to be Determined						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	5.1-A	Develop priority list of parcels for immediate and future acquisition of land to expand and connect existing resources, based on risk, proximity to existing resources and other factors.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Planning, Conservation	H	Ongoing
Lead	5.1-C	Annually Evaluate existing tax title properties and where appropriate, seek to place under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Assessors, Conservation, Select Board, Planning	M	Ongoing
Lead	5.4-A	Work to establish a committee to review Town-owned land for updated uses related to open space and recreation needs. Committee would specifically focus on lands emerging out of Chapter Lands programs.	Establish an Open Space and Recreation Site Committee to review Town-owned land and prioritize parcels that could be used for conservation and recreation purposes	Assessors, Select Board, Planning, Recreation, Conservation	M	Short

Planning						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	1.2-C	Reconcile town storm water regulations with the Grafton Subdivision Rules and Regulations to ensure consistency and enhance protection of land and water resources.	Manage, protect and improve public access to water resources vital for the sustainability of the community	Conservation	H	Short
Lead	2.1-A	Amend Grafton Subdivision Rules and Regulations so that they require the retention of open space for wildlife corridors on all parcels located between or adjacent to open space.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources		H	Short
Lead	5.3-C	Amend flexible development rules in Grafton Subdivision Rules and Regulations to require developers to clearly and permanently mark open spaces in subdivisions through the installation of signage or other permanent method.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Conservation	H	Short
Lead	2.4-A	Strengthen low impact development {LID} requirement language in town bylaws.	Protect land resources vital for the community	Conservation	H	Medium
Lead	3.1-A	Work with Town officials to update the Town of Grafton master plan.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Â's historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Select Board	H	Medium
Lead	1.2-B	Review and update water supply protection overlay district at regular intervals.	Manage, protect and improve public access to water resources vital for the sustainability of the community		M	Ongoing
Lead	2.4-B	Implement recommendations of the BRVHC's Natural Resources Inventory and Assessment. BRVHC's Natural Resources Inventory and Assessment recommendations can be found at mmend.1:1df. mmend.1:1df.	Protect land resources vital for the community	Conservation	M	Medium

Planning						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	3.2-A	Ensure Grafton's design guidelines reflect most up- to-date recommendations of the BVHC, Historic Commission and other local/regional organizations.	Encourage the use of both Grafton,Âs, the BHC Inc.,Âs and Historic Commission,Âs design guidelines		M	Medium
Lead	3.3-A	Explore Zoning Bylaw Amendments and other land use policies and programs that encourage the preservation of the character of Grafton's historic districts.	Encourage the continuation of Grafton's historic patterns of development where they are discernible	Historical Commission	M	Medium
Lead	2.4-C	Maintain partnerships with key open space protection allies such as OCR, Trust for Public Lands, the Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc., Grafton Land Trust and Sudbury Valley Trustees.	Protect land resources vital for the community	Select Board, Conservation	L	Ongoing
Lead	5.3-A	Evaluate Transfer of Development Rights for possible adoption.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Conservation, Ag Commission	L	Long
Lead	6.3-A	Cooperate with the development of the Worcester to Providence bikeway.	Work with neighboring communities to create inter-municipal connections	Select Board	L	Long
Lead	6.3-C	Work with neighboring communities to develop trail, bikeway and other connections between communities.	Work with neighboring communities to create inter-municipal connections	Conservation	L	Long
Supporting	5.1-A	Develop priority list of parcels for immediate and future acquisition of land to expand and connect existing resources, based on risk, proximity to existing resources and other factors.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Conservation, New Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.2-C	Develop Road Safety education program	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Police**, Recreation, DPW, Fire, School Department	H	Ongoing

Planning						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	6.2-D	Prioritize land acquisitions to purchase parcels that increase connectivity.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Conservation, Trails Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.4-B	Secure land along Silver Lake shoreline, Quinsigamond River, Blackstone River and Fisherville Mill Pond toward the development of a comprehensive Green Belt.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Recreation, Conservation**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	1.3-A	Concentrate educational efforts to address nonconforming uses within well recharge areas.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	Building, Conservation**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	5.1-C	Annually Evaluate existing tax title properties and where appropriate, seek to place under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Assessors, Conservation, Select Board, New Committee**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	6.4-D	Pursue policies to encourage private developers grant easements as part of any new developments along Green Belt route.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Select Board, Conservation**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	5.4-A	Work to establish a committee to review Town-owned land for updated uses related to open space and recreation needs. Committee would specifically focus on lands emerging out of Chapter Lands programs.	Establish an Open Space and Recreation Site Committee to review Town-owned land and prioritize parcels that could be used for conservation and recreation purposes	Assessors, Select Board, Recreation, Conservation, New Committee**	M	Short
Supporting	2.1-B	Provide information to landowners regarding available mechanisms to permanently protect open space parcels.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Select Board, Assessors, Conservation**	M	Medium
Supporting	2.3-B	Develop programs to support the vital role Grafton's farmers play in the local economy.	Protect Grafton's farms	Economic Development, Select Board, Ag Commission**	M	Medium

Planning						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	3.1-B	Revise and/or update Open Space and Recreation Plan prior to expiration.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Select Board, Conservation, Recreation**	M	Long (Expires 2028)
Supporting	1.1-A	Continue to support efforts to work with the Blackstone River Watershed Council and other organizations by establishing points of contact, developing working relationships, participating in regional conferences and other activities.	Continue to support regional efforts to improve and maintain the quality of the Blackstone River and its watershed in order to maximize its use	Conservation**, Select Board	L	Ongoing
Supporting	3.1-D	Coordinate with the Historic Commission and other relevant organizations to help build awareness of the historical significance of Grafton's historical and cultural places.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Select Board, Conservation, Historical Commission**	L	Short
Supporting	3.1-C	Update and maintain Town inventory of scenic lands and special places.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Historical Commission**	L	Medium
Supporting	4.4-A	Continue to support the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor, Inc. and DCR's goals for the Blackstone River and Canal by facilitating the development of park lands and recreational opportunities in their vicinity.	Support Blackstone Bikeway	Recreation**, Conservation	L	Long
Supporting	5.3-B	Work with Grafton's working farmers and agricultural land owners to encourage the continued preservation of the Town's remaining agricultural resources.	Work with boards, organizations and other entities in the Town of Grafton to coordinate conservation efforts	Ag Commission**, Economic Development, Conservation	L	Long
Supporting	6.3-B	Work with relevant town and regional organizations to develop a map of existing trails and proposed routes and destinations.	Work with neighboring communities to create inter-municipal connections	Conservation, Trails Committee**	L	Long

Planning						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	6.4-A	Develop Grafton Trail Loop, Green Belt Master Plan laying out possible easement routes, identifying publicly and privately-owned parcels and developing a strategy for securing easements, funding sources and other logistics	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Recreation, Select Board, Conservation**	L	Long

Police						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	6.2-C	Develop Road Safety education program	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Recreation, DPW, Planning, Fire, School Department	H	Ongoing
Supporting	2.1-D	Develop enforcement protocol for encroachment.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Select Board, Conservation**	M	Medium
Supporting	4.3-D	Develop plan to ensure all coordinated trails data is made available to emergency services personnel.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Grafton Land Trust, Fire, Select Board, Conservation, Trails Committee**	M	Medium

Recreation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	4.1-B	Develop a 5-year Capital Improvements plan for all recreation facilities under the Recreation Commission's jurisdiction.	Improve the maintenance of Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas and facilities		H	Ongoing
Lead	4.2-B	Prepare paper and digital resources (including social media) detailing the town's recreation facilities, public open spaces, trail systems, and other resources to publicize Grafton's special places to new residents and visitors.	Provide citizens and visitors with information regarding Grafton,Âs recreation/conservation/ cultural/ historic resources	Select Board, Conservation	H	Short
Lead	4.2-C	Develop a plan to ensure coordination between land trust and other agencies/organizations to make data on trails publicly available on the same platforms and in the same formats.	Provide citizens and visitors with information regarding Grafton,Âs recreation/conservation/ cultural/ historic resources	Conservation	H	Short
Lead	5.2-B	Develop and promote programs for all age groups and user groups within the population.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Conservation	M	Ongoing
Lead	4.6-B	Develop plan to make all publicly available data on hunting, trapping and fishing opportunities on Grafton's conservation lands available through the Town's website.	Improve fishing, hunting, and trapping opportunities	Conservation	M	Short
Lead	4.1-C	Develop a multi-year funding plan to finance better management of conservation and recreation lands.	Improve the maintenance of Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas and facilities	Select Board, Conservation	M	Medium
Lead	4.3-C	Increase recreation opportunities for a variety of user groups and special populations including teenagers and handicapped persons.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Conservation	M	Medium
Lead	5.2-C	Develop a map or other tool that identifies and prioritizes areas underserved by recreation facilities and other gaps.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Disability Commission	M	Medium

Recreation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	3.1-B	Revise and/or update Open Space and Recreation Plan prior to expiration.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Select Board, Conservation, Planning	M	Long (Expires 2028)
Lead	4.5-A	Develop management plans and strategic goals for Grafton's conservation lands and active recreational facilities.	Plan for year-round, active and passive recreational use of public space	Conservation	M	Long
Lead	4.6-A	Coordinate with DCR with stocking at Cronin and Miscoe Brooks.	Improve fishing, hunting, and trapping opportunities	Conservation, Select Board	L	Ongoing
Lead	4.4-A	Continue to support the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor, Inc. and DCR's goals for the Blackstone River and Canal by facilitating the development of park lands and recreational opportunities in their vicinity.	Support Blackstone Bikeway	Conservation, Planning	L	Long
Lead	6.1-A	Explore options for use of Grafton-Upton Railroad ROW from Snow Road intersection in the North to the Upton border in the South for a multi-use trail. The section South of the Town Common will be a key component of a walking path from the Common to Silver Lake. Explore other options for town-wide trails as well.	Improve and expand the system of Town-wide trails to provide a variety of recreational opportunities, such as hiking, jogging, skiing, biking, and horseback riding	Select Board, Conservation	L	Long
Supporting	6.2-C	Develop Road Safety education program	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Police**, DPW, Planning, Fire, School Department	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.4-B	Secure land along Silver Lake shoreline, Quinsigamond River, Blackstone River and Fisherville Mill Pond toward the development of a comprehensive Green Belt.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Grafton Land Trust, Select Board, Planning, Conservation**	H	Ongoing

Recreation						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	5.4-A	Work to establish a committee to review Town-owned land for updated uses related to open space and recreation needs. Committee would specifically focus on lands emerging out of Chapter Lands programs.	Establish an Open Space and Recreation Site Committee to review Town-owned land and prioritize parcels that could be used for conservation and recreation purposes	Assessors, Select Board, Planning, Conservation, New Committee**	M	Short
Supporting	5.2-D	Create a Grafton Trail Loop and Layout preferred location and begin securing trail easements with affected property owners.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Trails Committee**, Conservation	L	Long
Supporting	6.2-E	Explore opportunities for development of a Town Trolley or other circulator to connect popular cultural and open space destinations.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Economic Development**, Historical Commission, Select Board	L	Long
Supporting	6.4-A	Develop Grafton Trail Loop, Green Belt Master Plan laying out possible easement routes, identifying publicly and privately-owned parcels and developing a strategy for securing easements, funding sources and other logistics	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Select Board, Planning, Conservation**	L	Long

School Department						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	6.2-C	Develop Road Safety education program	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Police**, Recreation, DPW, Planning, Fire	H	Ongoing

Select Board						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	1.2-A	Prioritize land acquisitions to protect drinking water supply and surface water resources.	Manage, protect and improve public access to water resources vital for the sustainability of the community	Grafton Land Trust, Conservation**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	5.1-A	Develop priority list of parcels for immediate and future acquisition of land to expand and connect existing resources, based on risk, proximity to existing resources and other factors.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Grafton Land Trust, Planning, Conservation, New Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.2-B	Develop and maintain up-to-date inventory of sidewalks, including current condition, to promote timely repair and improvement of sidewalk network.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	DPW**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.2-D	Prioritize land acquisitions to purchase parcels that increase connectivity.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Grafton Land Trust, Planning, Conservation, Trails Committee**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	6.4-B	Secure land along Silver Lake shoreline, Quinsigamond River, Blackstone River and Fisherville Mill Pond toward the development of a comprehensive Green Belt.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Grafton Land Trust, Recreation, Planning, Conservation**	H	Ongoing
Supporting	1.5-A	Ensure there is a water quality plan in place for all of town water bodies that is actively maintained and implemented.	Take measures to improve the quality of Grafton's surface waters	Conservation**	H	Short
Supporting	4.2-B	Prepare paper and digital resources (including social media) detailing the town's recreation facilities, public open spaces, trail systems, and other resources to publicize Grafton's special places to new residents and visitors.	Provide citizens and visitors with information regarding Grafton,Âs recreation/conservation/ cultural/ historic resources	Recreation**, Conservation	H	Short
Supporting	3.1-A	Work with Town officials to update the Town of Grafton master plan.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Planning**	H	Medium

Select Board						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	5.1-C	Annually Evaluate existing tax title properties and where appropriate, seek to place under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Assessors, Conservation, Planning, New Committee**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	6.4-D	Pursue policies to encourage private developers grant easements as part of any new developments along Green Belt route.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Planning, Conservation**	M	Ongoing
Supporting	5.4-A	Work to establish a committee to review Town-owned land for updated uses related to open space and recreation needs. Committee would specifically focus on lands emerging out of Chapter Lands programs.	Establish an Open Space and Recreation Site Committee to review Town-owned land and prioritize parcels that could be used for conservation and recreation purposes	Assessors, Planning, Recreation, Conservation, New Committee**	M	Short
Supporting	2.1-B	Provide information to landowners regarding available mechanisms to permanently protect open space parcels.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Planning, Assessors, Conservation**	M	Medium
Supporting	2.1-D	Develop enforcement protocol for encroachment.	Permanently protect those Town owned open space resources necessary for provision of recreation opportunities and/or preservation of natural/visual/cultural/historic resources	Police, Conservation**	M	Medium
Supporting	2.3-B	Develop programs to support the vital role Grafton's farmers play in the local economy.	Protect Grafton's farms	Planning, Economic Development, Ag Commission**	M	Medium
Supporting	4.1-C	Develop a multi-year funding plan to finance better management of conservation and recreation lands.	Improve the maintenance of Grafton's active and passive recreation areas and facilities	Recreation**, Conservation	M	Medium
Supporting	4.3-A	Increase available parking space and improve condition of parking at conservation properties.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	DPW, Conservation**	M	Medium

Select Board						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	4.3-D	Develop plan to ensure all coordinated trails data is made available to emergency services personnel.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Grafton Land Trust, Fire, Police, Conservation, Trails Committee**	M	Medium
Supporting	3.1-B	Revise and/or update Open Space and Recreation Plan prior to expiration.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Conservation, Planning, Recreation**	M	Long (Expires 2028)
Supporting	1.1-A	Continue to support efforts to work with the Blackstone River Watershed Council and other organizations by establishing points of contact, developing working relationships, participating in regional conferences and other activities.	Continue to support regional efforts to improve and maintain the quality of the Blackstone River and its watershed in order to maximize its use	Planning, Conservation**	L	Ongoing
Supporting	2.4-C	Maintain partnerships with key open space protection allies such as OCR, Trust for Public Lands, the Blackstone Heritage Corridor, Inc., Grafton Land Trust and Sudbury Valley Trustees.	Protect land resources vital for the community	Conservation, Planning**	L	Ongoing
Supporting	4.6-A	Coordinate with DCR with stocking at Cronin and Miscoe Brooks.	Improve fishing, hunting, and trapping opportunities	Conservation, Recreation**	L	Ongoing
Supporting	3.1-D	Coordinate with the Historic Commission and other relevant organizations to help build awareness of the historical significance of Grafton's historical and cultural places.	Encourage a holistic approach to protecting and preserving Grafton,Âs historic, cultural, scenic landscape resources and other "special places"	Conservation, Planning, Historical Commission**	L	Short
Supporting	2.3-A	Work closely with the agricultural commission to explore and develop mechanisms for the protection and maintenance of working farms in Grafton.	Protect Grafton's farms	Grafton Land Trust, Assessors, Conservation, Ag Commission**	L	Long

Select Board						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Supporting	6.1-A	Explore options for use of Grafton-Upton Railroad ROW from Snow Road intersection in the North to the Upton border in the South for a multi-use trail. The section South of the Town Common will be a key component of a walking path from the Common to Silver Lake. Explore other options for town-wide trails as well.	Improve and expand the system of Town-wide trails to provide a variety of recreational opportunities, such as hiking, jogging, skiing, biking, and horseback riding	Conservation, Recreation**	L	Long
Supporting	6.2-E	Explore opportunities for development of a Town Trolley or other circulator to connect popular cultural and open space destinations.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Economic Development**, Historical Commission, Recreation	L	Long
Supporting	6.3-A	Cooperate with the development of the Worcester to Providence bikeway.	Work with neighboring communities to create inter-municipal connections	Planning**	L	Long
Supporting	6.4-A	Develop Grafton Trail Loop, Green Belt Master Plan laying out possible easement routes, identifying publicly and privately-owned parcels and developing a strategy for securing easements, funding sources and other logistics	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Recreation, Planning, Conservation**	L	Long

Sewer Department						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	1.3-D	Inspect sewer system and identify contingency plans for spills and leaks.	Secure additional protection for groundwater resources	DPW	M	Ongoing

Trails Committee – to be Created						
Role	Action		Objective	Partners (** is lead)	Priority	Timing
Lead	6.2-D	Prioritize land acquisitions to purchase parcels that increase connectivity.	Improve public access to and connectivity between Grafton,Âs active and passive recreation areas, facilities, conservation lands and points of interest	Grafton Land Trust, Planning, Select Board, Conservation	H	Ongoing
Lead	4.3-B	Inventory and map all open space trails identifying their current condition, maintenance needed.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Grafton Land Trust, Conservation	M	Medium
Lead	4.3-D	Develop plan to ensure all coordinated trails data is made available to emergency services personnel.	Improve access for all age and user groups within the population	Grafton Land Trust, Fire, Police, Select Board, Conservation	M	Medium
Lead	5.2-A	Identify gaps in trail network that might be filled with new land acquisitions.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Grafton Land Trust, Conservation	M	Medium
Lead	5.1-B	Develop an outreach program when planning the town-wide trails to secure cooperation of affected landowners.	Identify and target new priority land acquisitions that will connect to existing town recreation and conservation resources.	Conservation	L	Long
Lead	5.2-D	Create a Grafton Trail Loop and Layout preferred location and begin securing trail easements with affected property owners.	Expand facilities and opportunities into underserved areas to ensure equitable access for all residents	Recreation, Conservation	L	Long
Lead	6.3-B	Work with relevant town and regional organizations to develop a map of existing trails and proposed routes and destinations.	Work with neighboring communities to create inter-municipal connections	Planning, Conservation	L	Long
Supporting	4.2-A	Improve signage and other wayfinding, identifying the location/access points for all conservation lands that are open to the public.	Provide citizens and visitors with information regarding Grafton,Âs recreation/conservation/ cultural/ historic resources	Conservation**	H	Short
Supporting	6.4-C	Pursue development of trails along parcels along lands already owned by the Town, Land Trust or other public agency.	Secure Green Belt along waterbodies in Grafton	Grafton Land Trust, Conservation**	M	Medium